

South Dakota ROAD TRIP

TRAVEL GUIDE

Exploring South Dakota's History & Agriculture

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Find the teacher's guide and student resources at **SDROADTRIP.ORG**.

PIERRE

ESTABLISHED IN: 1832

POPULATION: 14,008

Town History

Pierre was founded as a trading post in 1878. The town was originally named Matto, which means "bear's ear" in Lakota. It was changed to Pierre in 1880 when a shipment of household items from North Dakota was mailed to "Pierre on the east of the river opposite Fort Pierre."



History
PASSPORT

South Dakota operates under three separate divisions or branches. Learn more about each of these branches by completing the ***South Dakota Government: How It Works*** activity.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

We toured the State Capitol building in Pierre and saw the governor's office. One question I would like to ask the Governor is....

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. When will South Dakota's next governor be elected?
2. Who are the state representatives and senator from your legislative district?

Map Builder

Find and mark the location of South Dakota's capital city on your Map Builder.

South Dakota Government — How it Works

Pierre is the capital city of South Dakota and the center of government for the state. The Governor's Office is located in the State Capitol. This building is where the South Dakota Legislature meets. In November 2010, voters elected Dennis Daugaard as South Dakota's 32nd Governor. Governors are elected for four year terms and can only serve for two terms.

The Legislature is made up of elected representatives from across the state. The state legislators are members of either the House of Representatives or the Senate. South Dakota has 35 legislative districts. Voters in each district elect one senator and two representatives. There are currently 35 senators and 70 representatives that meet in Pierre each year.

The South Dakota Legislative Session begins on the second Tuesday of January and meets for 35-40 days. Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate meet in the capitol building to discuss and debate important issues. Their job is to represent the people of the state by writing and voting on bills that will become laws. For a bill to become a law, it has to be passed by both the House of Representatives and the Senate. If it is passed by both groups, the bill goes to the governor. The governor can either sign the bill into law or veto it.



REST STOP - - - - -

There is a legend that each of the 66 Italian craftsmen who helped build the Capitol were given a bright blue tile to place as their signature. They could place the blue stone anywhere they wished in the tiled marble floor of the building. How many of the sixty six blue stones have been found in the terrazzo flooring throughout the building? Take a tour of the South Dakota State Capitol at <https://boa.sd.gov/divisions/capitol/CapitolTour/begin.htm>.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. Name the other three major dams in South Dakota.
2. Why was the Oahe Dam built?

Vocabulary

GOVERNOR: *an official elected to act as the leader of a state.*

BILL: *a draft of a law presented to a legislature for consideration.*

VETO: *the power of the head of a government to prevent a bill passed by a legislature from becoming law.*

CAPITOL: *the building in which a state legislature meets.*

CAPITAL: *the location of a government.*

The Oahe Dam



The Oahe Dam is located six miles from Pierre. It is the second largest dam on the Missouri River. It is the nation's largest earth-rolled dam. The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers begin working on the dam in 1948 and completed it in 1962. The dam is 242 feet high and holds back water 250 miles upstream from Pierre to Bismarck, North Dakota. It was named after the Oahe Mission established by the Lakota in 1874 and is a Sioux Indian word meaning "a foundation" or a "place to stand on."

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers designed and built the Oahe Dam to help with flood control, to improve land irrigation and to help in the navigation of ships on the river. It also creates electricity from the flow of water that runs through it. The Oahe Dam has seven turbines that provide electricity for much of north-central United States. This type of electricity is called hydropower. Hydropower is the renewable energy source that provides most of the electricity in the United States. Renewable energy is created from natural resources such as sunlight, wind and water. Some other forms of renewable energy used in South Dakota are ethanol, wind energy and solar energy.

The Missouri River runs from north to south. When the Oahe Dam was built, the Missouri River had to be funneled through its turbines. This caused a backup of water north of the dam which became Lake Oahe. One of the challenges for engineers was to move towns, roads and bridges that could be flooded by the new lake.



Learning About Agriculture

Agriculture is defined as the process of producing food, fuel, and fiber for clothing by raising certain plants and domesticated, or tamed animals. Agriculture is also known as farming. Agriculture is our state's #1 business or industry. In the late 1800's, homesteaders used a mule or horse to "drive" a plow to break the hard and thick prairie sod so they could plant crops such as wheat and corn. Two hundred years later, farmers plant their crops using tractors and combines that have global positioning systems to map their planting and guide their equipment.

Although the tools and equipment have changed since pioneer times, agriculture connects the people, businesses, towns, and rural areas of our state by providing food for us to eat, clothes for us to wear, and places for people to work.

Scavenger Hunt

What crops are most prevalent, or common in your county?

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

We learned a lot about agriculture during our visit in Pierre. My definition of agriculture is.....

Research - Discuss - Learn

Find and share one other fun fact about agriculture in South Dakota.

Fun and Interesting Facts about South Dakota Agriculture

- Each year, one South Dakota farmer raises enough food to feed 155 people.
- South Dakota is first in the nation for raising sunflowers.
- South Dakota is first in the nation for raising bison.
- South Dakota has nearly 5 beef cattle for every person living in the state.
- The average size of a farm ranch in South Dakota is 1374 acres. An acre is about the size of a football field.
- South Dakota receives from 14-25" of rain and from 25-100" in snow each year.



Livestock, crops and their byproducts are very important to the economy, or financial system of our state. Different crops and livestock grow better in different parts of the state. Complete the *How Our Land Is Used* activity to learn about South Dakota's agricultural regions.

FORT PIERRE

ESTABLISHED IN: 1832
POPULATION: 2,148

Town History

Fort Pierre is the oldest continuously occupied white settlement in South Dakota. From the French Verendrye explorers to Scott Philip, the man who "single-handedly saved the American buffalo", this area is a true "Old West" town. Ft. Pierre was founded in 1832 and was named for Pierre Chouteau Jr., a successful fur trader. Chouteau built many trading posts along the Missouri River, including one near Fort Pierre. In 1804, the Mouth of the Bad River is where Lewis and Clark's Corp of Discovery met and feasted with the Teton Lakota.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. Why were trading posts built near rivers?
2. What types of clothing and other items were made from beaver and buffalo furs?

The Fur Trade

The fur trade was one of the first major industries of North America. Fur traders and trappers visited the Great Plains beginning in the 1600s looking for wildlife to hunt, trap, trade and sell. Small animals such as beaver were hunted as well as buffalo.

Many American Indian tribes, including the

Arikara and Sioux Indians were already living in this

area. European exploration began in 1742 when the Verendryes arrived, passing though on their search for the Northwest passage as a way to transport furs and supplies. They also traded furs with the American Indian tribes.

After the United States purchased the

Louisiana Territory in 1803, President Thomas Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to locate a water route across northern America and also to document plants and animals they found along the way. Lewis and Clark described the region as a place with many beaver and buffalo, but few trading posts. These reports led to an increased interest in the fur trade and as a result, many trading posts and forts were built. The American Fur Trade Company, a large company in eastern United States, constructed Fort Pierre Chouteau in 1832. This fort became the largest fur trading post on the upper Missouri River and was in business until 1855.

Vocabulary

SETTLEMENT: a place where people have come to live and where few or no people lived before.

TRADING POST: a place (such as a store, a town, or a fort) that is far from other towns and is used for buying, selling, and trading goods and services.

INDUSTRIES: a group of businesses that provide a particular product or service.

AUCTION: a public sale at which things are sold to the people who offer to pay the most.

Scavenger Hunt

Fort Pierre is located near a major river. What is the name of this river?

The Verendrye Brothers

Francois and Louis-Joseph Verendrye were French-Canadian fur traders who had a great impact on the history of Fort Pierre. They traveled through the area in search of a sea route or river across North America from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, called the Northwest Passage. Though they did not find this route, their expedition was not a failure. They had traveled further west than any other European explorer.

The Verendrye Brothers arrived near present-day Fort Pierre in 1743. They buried a small lead plate at their campsite. The plate has a carved message claiming the land west of the Mississippi River for Louis XV, King of France. It is also the spot of the first visit by white people on South Dakota land.

The Verendrye Plate was not discovered for over 170 years. In 1913, a group of teenagers found a small part of the plate sticking out of the ground. They uncovered the plate and because it was made

of lead and could be valuable, took it to a local print shop to sell. The printer noticed the carved message and thought it might be important to the



Verendrye Monument

state’s history. He took it to the South Dakota State Historical Society for experts to examine. The location where the plate was found is called the Verendrye Site. It is marked with a monument that reads:

“Here on March 30, 1743 the Verendryes buried a lead tablet to claim this region for France. This tablet found on February 16, 1913 is the first written record of the visit of white men to South Dakota.”

Research - Discuss - Learn

- 1. The Verendrye Plate claimed the Fort Pierre area for which country in Europe?
- 2. Who visited the Fort Pierre area first, the Verendrye Brothers or Lewis and Clark?

Timeline Builder

Mark the year that Fort Pierre, the first permanent white settlement was founded on your Timeline Builder. Write important facts about their visit.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

We learned that Fort Pierre is one of the oldest towns in South Dakota. What a fun place to visit! My favorite part of the trip was:



History
PASSPORT

A variety of animals that live along the Missouri River were recorded by Lewis and Clark in their journals. Complete the *Animals of the Expedition* activity to learn more about these animals.

Beef Cattle—From Farm to Table

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

We also visited the Livestock Auction, or sale barn, in Fort Pierre. Here's what I learned about cattle...

Our study of beef cattle begins with learning basic information about beef cattle and ends with the hamburger on our dinner plate. Throughout our road trip across South Dakota, we will follow beef cattle from the ranch to the sale barn, to the processing plant, to the semi-truck, to the grocery store—and finally to our home.

Let's start at the beginning to learn about this important food product. The history of cattle in our country goes back 5000

years when they came to America with Christopher Columbus. Cattle and beef production has now grown to represent the largest single segment of American agriculture. There are more farms classified as beef cattle farms (35%) than any other type. In fact, 50% of the farms in South Dakota grow cattle and calves.

Beef from cattle is used as food for people and to make things we use every day such as clothing, furniture, dishes and even marshmallows! Cattle by-products allow for use of 99% of a cow.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. How many farms are in South Dakota?
2. Fifty percent of the farms in South Dakota raise beef cattle. How many farms does this represent?



REST STOP

Casey Tibbs was born in 1929 in a log cabin on the family homestead 50 miles from Ft. Pierre. At 14 years of age, Casey started riding in rodeos in South Dakota. He went on to become a nine-time World Champion winner. Learn more about Casey Tibbs and rodeos at www.caseytibbs.com.

AG FACT

Fort Pierre Livestock has been the #1 livestock auction in the state for many years. In 2016, over 259,000 cattle were sold.



Agriculture
PASSPORT

We learned that South Dakota has nearly five beef cattle for every one person who lives in South Dakota—that's a lot of cattle! Fort Pierre Livestock sells over 250,000 cattle each year. The cattle industry is very important to our state. Let's learn more about this important industry. Complete the **Cattle Call Magic Squares** activity to learn about the different types of cattle. Find out how all parts of a beef cow are used by completing the **Beef By Product Bingo** activity.

CHAMBERLAIN

ESTABLISHED IN: 1880

POPULATION: 2,369

Town History

Chamberlain was founded in 1880. The town was named after Selah Chamberlain, a director with the Milwaukee Railroad. Chamberlain is located near the Missouri River and is part of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Chamberlain is home to the South Dakota Hall of Fame. It was created in 1974 to honor people who have been important leaders in our state.

Vocabulary

DIRECTOR: a person who manages or supervises a group of people at a company or business.

NATURAL RESOURCES: something (mineral, water source, forest or animal) that is found in nature and is valuable to humans (as in providing a source of energy, recreation, or scenic beauty).

EXPEDITION: a journey or trip made for a specific purpose.

ACCURATE: free from mistakes.

NEGOTIATE: to have a discussion with another to arrive at an agreement.

Lewis and Clark Expedition

In 1803 Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were sent by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the "new" land acquired from France in the Louisiana Purchase. Forty-five men joined the expedition. This group was called the Corp of Discovery. The Corp started their journey in St. Louis, Missouri. They followed the Missouri River to present-day North Dakota, then traveled west through the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. The explorers followed almost the same path back to St. Louis. They covered over 8,000 miles during their two year, four month and ten day expedition.

The Corp used one large boat and two smaller canoe-like boats to carry their supplies. Two horses were shared among the 45 travelers. Most of the journey was by foot. Travel was slow at only 10-15 miles each day.

Lewis and Clark worked hard to build good relationships with the Native American tribes they met along the way. They offered each new tribe a peace medal, an American flag and other gifts.

Lewis and Clark kept detailed journals of things they saw and experienced. The journals described how the land looked, the types of plants and animals they found, the weather conditions, and the different Native American tribes they met. They discovered over 100 species of animals and over 170 plants. Lewis and Clark also created the first accurate maps of the area.



History
PASSPORT

Complete the *Lewis and Clark Timeline* activity to learn more about the famous Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Louisiana Purchase

The story of the South Dakota pioneer begins with the Louisiana Purchase. Before this historic purchase, the land between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains was called Louisiana Territory and was owned by France. President Thomas Jefferson contacted French Emperor Napoleon I to negotiate the purchase of this land.

President Jefferson wanted this land area for many reasons. The Mississippi River was included in the purchase. The river was important for shipping goods and transportation. It was also

surrounded by rich farm land. Owning the land west of the Mississippi River would provide room for the growing number of American pioneers and increase the country's access to natural resources such as water,



Map of the Louisiana Purchase

farmland, wildlife and trees.

On April 30, 1803, the United States finalized the purchase of the Louisiana Territory from France. This purchase is often called the "greatest real estate deal in history." The United States paid \$15 million for over 800,000 square miles of land. The Louisiana Purchase instantly doubled the size of the United States. It included all or part of 15 present-day states: Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. Why did President Jefferson want to purchase the Louisiana Territory land area?

2. Do the math! The United States paid \$15 million for 800,000 square miles of land. What was the purchase price for each square mile?

Timeline Builder

Mark the year of the Louisiana Purchase on your Timeline Builder. Write a summary of this important purchase.

Map Builder

Chamberlain is located near Interstate 90, a super highway that crosses the state from west to east. Interstate 29 crosses the state from south to north. Create a symbol for Interstates in your Map Legend. Mark and label Interstates 90 and 29 on your Map Builder. Also mark the number of the Interstate exit at Chamberlain.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

We learned that Lewis and Clark kept journals describing places and people they saw on their trip as they traveled though South Dakota. This is my journal entry for our visit to Chamberlain:

While in Chamberlain, we saw the Dignity statue along the Interstate. This statue...

Beef Cattle—From the Inside Out

At our last stop on the Road Trip, we learned that beef cattle are raised primarily to provide us with food and other useful by products. The cattle industry is important to Chamberlain's economy and that of the entire state. Raising cattle dates back in the history of our country to Christopher Columbus and also the pilgrims at Jamestown. Did you know that as Lewis and Clark neared the end of their journey, they saw cattle on shore and raised a cheer, happy that they were nearing civilization and their home of St. Louis, Missouri.

Why are cattle so important to us? Cattle provide us with food to eat and their by-products provide us with clothing, shoes, and even medications. Let learn more about this important animal!

65 pounds of beef the average American eats each year.

1100 average weight of a cow in pounds.

8 hours per day cows spend sleeping—even while standing!

Cattle are ruminants. This means they have one stomach with four separate compartments.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. Find one new fact about cattle to share with the class.
2. What are the different cuts of a beef from a cow? Draw a picture of a cow showing these cuts of meat.

Scavenger Hunt

1. Did you know that there's a town in South Dakota called Hereford? Name three other South Dakota towns that are named for animals.
2. We learned about the Dignity statue in Chamberlain. There is a Fighting Stallion monument in South Dakota. Where is it located? Why was it created?

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

I had so much fun learning about cattle! I didn't know that.....

Cattle need to eat healthy foods, just like we do. A cow eats.....



Agriculture
PASSPORT

We learned that beef cattle "chew their cud" and that they have four different sections in their stomach. Complete the **Beef Cattle Digestive System** activity to find out how cows process food through their body. Then complete the **Build a Healthy Meal** to learn what types of food they eat.

LEMMON

ESTABLISHED IN: 1906

POPULATION: 1,216

Town History

Lemmon was organized in 1906 and was named after George Edward Lemmon. He was one of the most well-known cowboys and ranchers in western South Dakota. "Dad" Lemmon brought herds of cattle to the area, which helped start the cattle industry in western South Dakota. In 1902 he settled on the L-7 Ranch, which was located near the present town of Lemmon. The ranch leased 865,000 acres of land on the Standing Rock Reservation and enclosed it with standard three-wire fence, making it the largest fenced pasture in the world at the time. He was inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in 1958.

Source: www.lemmonsds.com/history-of-lemmon

Vocabulary

BRAND: a mark made by burning (as on cattle) to show ownership.

PETRIFIED: to slowly change (something, such as wood) into stone or a substance like stone over a very long period of time.

LANDSCAPE: an area of land that has a particular quality or appearance.

Research - Discuss - Learn

Many cattle have ear tags. What is the purpose of these tags?

Cattle Brands

Lemmon is known for its cattle ranches and western life style. "Dad" Lemmon was one of the few remaining Texas trail drivers who made the delivery of beef cattle herds from Texas to the prairies of South Dakota. These herds were the beginnings of the cattle industry in western South Dakota.

Ranchers brand cattle and other livestock to show their ownership. Hot irons are used to burn each rancher's special brand, or design on the animal's hide.

Every rancher has their own type of brand. Cattle owned by several different ranches can graze freely together on the open range because the brands help ranchers identify their livestock at round up time.



Brands have their own language. A brand is a unique combination of letters, numbers and pictures. The ability to read these symbols is known as "callin' the brand." Brands are read from left to right and top to bottom. When they are enclosed in a circle or square, it is read from the outside to the inside. When creating a brand, a rancher must follow certain rules and also register their design with the South Dakota State Brand Board.

Timeline Builder

Write the year that Hugh Glass made his famous journey of survival. Write a short summary of the story.



History
PASSPORT

Lemmon is known for ranches, livestock sales and rodeos. To learn more about cattle branding, complete the *Callin' the Brand* activity.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. What time of year did the Hugh Glass story take place?
2. What words would you use to describe Hugh Glass and his character?

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

My favorite part of the trip to Lemmon was:

The Amazing Story of Hugh Glass

The tale of Hugh Glass is an incredible story of survival. Hugh Glass was an American frontiersman, fur trapper, fur trader, hunter, and explorer. As a young sailor, he was captured by pirates, but was able to escape by jumping off the ship and swimming to a shore in Texas. He then started walking north with no map, supplies or weapons. When he arrived in Kansas, a tribe of Pawnee Indians rescue him and taught him to survive in the wilderness.



In 1823, he traveled up the Missouri River with William Ashley and the Rocky Mountain Fur Company. Mr. Glass was ahead of his group scouting land near the current day town of Shadehill when he came across a female grizzly bear and her cubs. The bear attacked him, but he was able to fight back using his knife to kill the bear. He was left badly injured and unconscious.

Mr. Ashley asked two members of the group to stay behind to care for Mr. Glass. The men cared for him for several days, but he wasn't improving. They felt Mr. Glass was not going to live much longer, so they took all the supplies and left him to die. Surprisingly, Mr. Glass survived!

Mr. Glass woke up and was angry to find that he had been left 200 miles away from the nearest settlement with no food to eat or weapons for protection. Even though he had a broken leg, and cuts all over his body, he crawled nearly 200 miles to Fort Kiowa, near present-day Chamberlain. He ate mostly berries and roots during his six week journey. Although the main reason Mr. Glass wanted to survive was to get revenge on the men who had left him to die, in the end, he forgave them both.

The story of Hugh Glass has been told in several books, in poems and a recent movie. A monument near Shadehill marks the spot of the bear attack.



REST STOP

Lemmon is home to the world's largest petrified wood park. Wood that has turned to stone is known as petrified wood. It takes thousands of years for a tree to turn into this kind of fossil. The Petrified Wood Park and Museum has a 300-ton castle with towering spires and turrets that cover an entire city block. The castle is made from petrified wood as well as thousands of pounds of dinosaur and mammoth bones. It is northwest South Dakota's largest tourist attraction. Take a tour of the Petrified Wood Park at www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6CvcM93Uss

EAST RIVER – WEST RIVER AGRICULTURE

We have learned that different crops and livestock are raised in different parts of the state because of the different types of soil and landscape. You may have heard people talk about “East River” or “West River.” They are talking about land on either side of the Missouri River. The landscape on the east side of the river is much different than the landscape on the west side of the river. Different crops grow better than others and different livestock are raised on either side of the river. East River is flat with fertile soil, making it good land for growing crops. The west side of the state has rolling hills and mountains, making it hard to grow crops, however it has good pasture land for cattle ranches. West River has almost one half of the land area of the state, but has only between one

fourth and one third of the population. Most of the beef cattle raised in the state comes from West River. The process of getting these cattle from the farm or ranch to our tables involves many ag-related businesses and careers including livestock auctions, feedlots, trucking companies, processing plants and stores and restaurants. Let’s learn more about this process!

Research - Discuss - Learn

Do you live in “East River” or “West River?” Describe the landscape where you live.

AG FACTS

Hamburger meat from one steer would equal 720 quarter-pound hamburgers, enough for a family of four to enjoy hamburgers each day for nearly six months.

Beef is the meat from cattle. This meat is high in protein which helps with growth and strong muscles.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

We learned about cattle brands in Lemmon. Here is the design and description for my brand...

Map Builder

We learned about East and West River sections of South Dakota. Mark these areas on your map. Draw the route of the Missouri River which divides the state into these two sections.



Agriculture
PASSPORT

We have learned a lot about beef cattle since we started the Road Trip. Play the *Where’s the Beef* jeopardy game to test your knowledge.

BUFFALO

ESTABLISHED IN: 1909

POPULATION: 353

Town History

The town of Buffalo was named for the many buffalo that used to roam the area. The last herd of wild buffalo in South Dakota was slaughtered a few miles west of the town.

Buffalo is the county seat of Harding County. It is the second least populated South Dakota County with only 1255 people. Cattle and sheep outnumber people 10 to 1!

The Battle of Slim Buttes was fought near Buffalo in 1876. This battle was the first United States military victory after Custer's defeat at the Battle of Little Bighorn.

The Buffalo

Buffalo came to North America on a land bridge between Alaska and Russia over 800,000 years ago. Buffalo can survive on the plains of South Dakota because they like dry areas and can handle cold weather. They are able to dig through snow to get grass to eat.

They can get the water they need from melted snow. Buffalo are wild animals and cannot be tamed. Although they don't look to be very fast, buffalo can run at a speed of up to 40 miles per hour.

The buffalo is very important to Native American culture. Tatanka is the Lakota word for buffalo. They used almost every part of the animal for food, clothing, supplies and

shelter. Native Americans lived as nomads. Tribes followed the herds as they moved across the region. Native Americans did not have horses to help them hunt until pioneers brought them to the west. It would take almost the entire tribe to help on a buffalo hunt.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. What is one way Native Americans used parts of the buffalo?
2. What are some characteristics of buffalo? How much do they weigh? What do they like to eat?

Map Builder

Buffalo is located in the northwest corner of South Dakota close to two other states. What are these states? Create a symbol for state borders in your map legend. Mark the six states that border South Dakota on your Map Builder using this symbol. Draw the borders and label the state names.



History
PASSPORT

Did you know that buffalo is the national mammal. While buffalo is not the state animal, it is very important to our history. Complete the **South Dakota Symbols** activity to learn about symbols that represent the culture and traditions of our state.

Timeline Builder

Add the year and information about the Battle of Slim Buttes to your Timeline Builder.

Native American stories brought back East by hunters and explorers told of buffalo herds so large that they measured 20 miles wide and 50 miles long. Their movement raised clouds of dust and noise that could be hear miles away.

Sixty million buffalo used to roam the Great Plains of North America before almost becoming extinct. Native Americans and the increasing number of pioneers hunted most of the buffalo for their meat, hide and bones. There were a few people who acted to save the buffalo. Frederick Dupree captured five calves and brought them to his ranch near Fort Pierre. Over the years, the herd grew to over 50 buffalo. James “Scotty” Philip bought the herd after Mr. Dupree died. The herd increased in number to around 400 buffalo on the Philip ranch near Fort Pierre. Today there are nearly 250,000 buffalo grazing on ranches across the state. Many of these buffalo are related to those that Mr. Dupree and Mr. Philip rescued.

William Hornaday, a New York zoologist, also wanted to save the buffalo. He started the American Bison Society (ABS). The Society raised buffalo and donated them to national parks. In 1913, ABS gave fourteen buffalo to Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota.

Travel Log WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

Buffalo was another fun place to visit. We learned about all the ways that Native Americans used parts of the buffalo. Two things I learned about buffalo are:

South Dakota Traditional Foods

Many South Dakotans enjoy the taste and healthy benefits of eating buffalo meat from animals raised right here in our state. Settlers came to South Dakota from many different countries. With them came certain types of foods they were used to eating in their home countries. Here are some foods that are unique to the cultural background of South Dakota residents:

KUCHEN	This German sweet pastry has a bread-like crust with a custard or fruit filling.The community of Eureka ran a successful campaign to have kuchen named as South Dakota's official state dessert.
LEFSE	This Norwegian flatbread is made from potatoes, milk or cream and flour. It is commonly served during the holidays.
LUTEFISK	This Scandinavian white fish is another popular holiday food. The fish is soaked in water and lye for several days before cooking. It is then served with butter.
CHISLIC	This cubed red meat is fried or grilled. It is made from lamb, venison or beef and served with garlic salt.
PLEASANT	Pheasant is the state bird of South Dakota. Pheasant is usually baked and prepared with herbs, spices and vegetables and/or mushroom soup.
WALLEYE	Walleye has been the state fish of South Dakota since 1982. It lives in large, clear and cool freshwater lakes. The fish is served fried in a batter or baked.

Learning About Buffalo

In 2016, President Obama signed the National Bison Legacy Act into law, officially making the American bison the national mammal of the United States. Let's learn more about this mighty mammal!

Buffalo or bison are the largest mammal in North America. While bison and buffalo are used interchangeably, in North America the scientific name is bison.

Male bison, called bulls, weigh up to 2,000 pounds and stand 6 feet tall. Female bison, called cows, weigh up to 1,000 pounds and reach a height of 4-5 feet. They can live up to 20 years of age.

Bison calves weigh between 30 and 70 pounds at birth. They are orange-red in color, and for this reason are sometimes called "red dogs." After a few months, their hair starts to change to dark brown and their characteristic shoulder hump and horns begin to grow.

Scavenger Hunt

1. The town of Buffalo is named for an animal. List three other South Dakota towns named for animals.
2. What is the purchase price of a buffalo? What does the typical buffalo weigh? What is the cost per pound?

Bison mostly eat grasses, weeds and leafy plants. They spend from nine to eleven hours eating each day.

In addition to being fast runners, bison are also strong swimmers and can jump high fences.

Bison is a lean meat. It is rich in protein, iron, zinc, vitamin B12 and other nutrients. It is cooked much like beef—you may have had a buffalo burger or a buffalo steak for dinner.



Research - Discuss - Learn

1. Is bison considered a healthy meat? Why or why not?
2. Research and share one additional fact about buffalo.



Agriculture
PASSPORT

Pioneers and Native Americans hunted buffalo for their meat, hide and bones. Complete the *Bountiful Buffalo* crossword puzzle to learn how Native Americans used every part of the buffalo.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

It was fun learning about the buffalo and how they look and what they eat. One thing that surprised me was:

YANKTON

ESTABLISHED IN: 1862

POPULATION: 14,566

Town History

Yankton is located in southeast South Dakota along the Missouri River. Sioux Indians living in the area who named the land "E-Hank-Ton-Wan" meaning "people of the end village." Yankton is county seat of Yankton County, which was established in 1862.

Vocabulary

PETITION: a formal written request made to an official person or group.

TERRITORY: an area of land that belongs to or is controlled by a government.

Yankton On The River—A City of "Firsts"

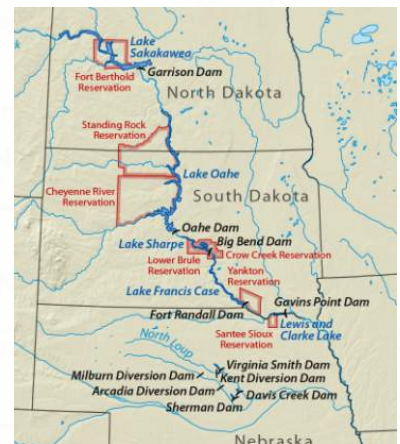
"Life in Yankton has always revolved around the Missouri River." Native Americans lived along the river years ago. The river brought steamboats and settlers to Yankton. The railroad arrived in 1873 when the steamboat industry was ending. Steamboats and the railroad both made the shipping of goods and transportation for people much easier.

Yankton is a city of "firsts." Much of South Dakota's history has its beginnings in this area. Pierre Dorian was the first white settler in Yankton. He met the Lewis and Clark expedition in Missouri and came with them to Yankton. The first high school and the first college in Dakota Territory brought education and higher learning to the area. The first drive-in movie theater in South Dakota brought a new type of entertainment.

Yankton was also the first capital of Dakota Territory. However, in 1883 Yankton lost the bid for territorial capital to Bismarck, North Dakota. When South Dakota became a state in 1889, Yankton lost the state capital race to Pierre.

Many famous people from history traveled through the area. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark explored the area in 1804 and 1806. Jack McCall, the man who shot Wild Bill Hickok, was hanged and buried in Yankton.

Source: cityofyankton.org



Scavenger Hunt

John Todd was known for carrying this item. What was it? What other information can you provide about the story behind this item?

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. What year was the town of Yankton established?
2. Yankton is called the "River City." What are some reasons for this nickname?

Dakota Territory

In 1850 the land that is now South Dakota was occupied by Sioux tribes and trading posts. That began to change in 1855 when John Blair Smith Todd came to the area with the United States military. After his military service ended, he decided to stay in the area to open trading posts along the Missouri River. Mr. Todd knew that his businesses would be more successful if people lived in the area to become his customers. For that to happen, he had to convince local Native Americans to allow settlers to move into the region. Mr. Todd came to an agreement with the Yankton Sioux tribe to open part of the eastern side of present day South Dakota to settlers.

Mr. Todd bought some of this land and sold it at a higher price to make money. He knew that settlers would be more willing to purchase land if it were officially included as an organized territory of the United States. Mr. Todd asked settlers to sign a petition requesting the government to make this area Dakota Territory.

Mr. Todd's cousin, Mary Lincoln Todd, was married to President Abraham Lincoln. This may have helped him in getting the President involved. In 1861 President Lincoln officially designated the land Dakota Territory. The new territory included South Dakota, North Dakota, and parts of Wyoming and Montana.



Dakota territory coat of arms

DETOUR

Visit the Treaty of 1858 Monument near Greenwood and also see the buffalo herd that roams the area. The monument is located on the spot where a treaty designating land for the Dakota Sioux was signed. Read more about this important agreement at <http://bit.ly/2EplyyF>

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

Yankton was a fun place to visit. We learned that Yankton was the "first" for many things. These are...

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. What is a territory?
2. Why was it important that that Dakota Territory was created?

Timeline Builder

List the year Dakota Territory was created on your Timeline Builder. Write sentences providing two facts about the history of this area.



History
PASSPORT

Yankton had the first high school and also the first college in South Dakota. School lessons in the middle to late 1800s were very different from today's lessons. Pretend that you are a pioneer student. Complete the *Readin', 'Ritin' and 'Rithmetic* activity to experience a lesson from the that time period.

Pigs and Pork—From Farm to Table

Our study of pigs and pork begins with learning basic information about pigs and ends with the bacon we eat for breakfast. During the next few visits on our road trip across South Dakota we will learn answers to these food supply questions: Where does the pork that I eat come from? How is pork good for me? How does pork get from the field to my home? What other products are made from pigs?

The ancestors of today's pigs were wild hogs. They lived 6 million years ago in Europe and other parts of the world. Farmers in China began taming and raising hogs 7,000 years ago. English farmers have raised them for almost 3,000 years.

Farmers started raising hogs in the United States 400 years ago. The first hogs were brought to America by Spanish explorers and English settlers. Hogs were raised where corn was grown. Pig production spread rapidly through the new colonies. By the end of the 1600s, the typical farmer owned four or five pigs, providing salt pork, ham and bacon. At the end of the 1700s, pioneers started heading west, taking their pigs with them. Wooden crates filled with young pigs often hung from the axles of prairie schooner wagons. Today, there are over 1000 hog producers in South Dakota and pork has become the most widely eaten meat in the world.

Research - Discuss - Learn

Research facts about pigs to share with the class. How much do they weigh? What are the popular breeds in South Dakota? What cuts of meat come from a pig? What is the size of a typical litter?



Agriculture
PASSPORT

We learned that South Dakota produces about 2 million pigs each year. The pork industry is very important to our state. Let's learn more about this important industry. Complete the **Pig Talk** activity to learn "pig" terms and definitions.

Scavenger Hunt

Yankton is the county seat of Yankton County. How many counties are in South Dakota? Hogs are an important livestock commodity grown in the Yankton area. What other crops and/or livestock are prevalent in this area?

AG FACTS

—Pork is good for you! Pork both a good source of protein and also provides several important vitamins and minerals

—Pigs are intelligent animals.

—Like humans, pigs are omnivores, meaning they eat

both plants and other animals.

—A pig's snout is an important tool for finding food in the ground and sensing the world around them.

—Pigs have an excellent sense of smell.

VERMILLION

ESTABLISHED IN: 1873

POPULATION: 10,844

Town History

Vermillion is a city in and the county seat of Clay County. Vermillion was named for the Lakota word "wak pa 'la" meaning red stream which comes from the red (vermilion) clay along the river's banks.

Timeline Builder

We learned that the first schoolhouse in Dakota Territory was built in Vermillion. Add the year that the schoolhouse was built to your Timeline Builder. Write sentences that describe that building.



History
PASSPORT

When pioneers came to Dakota Territory, one of the first things they did was to build a home. Pioneer homes were very small. There were only 16 feet long by 12 feet wide. Complete the *Pioneer Shanty Floor Plan* activity to create a floor plan that could work for these tiny spaces.

Vermillion—Near the Rivers and Spirit Mound

Vermillion is another one of South Dakota's river towns with an interesting and historic past. Vermillion was actually built on the banks of the Missouri River.

Lewis and Clark camped at the mouth of the Vermillion River in 1804. They came to the area to visit Spirit Mound to check out reports and rumors that the Mound was occupied by spirits that killed any human that came near using sharp arrows. Native American tribes believed that these spirits were in human form with large heads and about 18 inches tall. Lewis and Clark didn't see the spirits, but they did see a beautiful landscape and herds of buffalo.

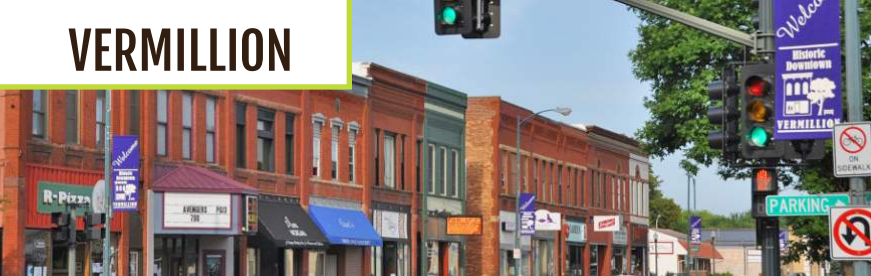
After Lewis and Clark, trapping and the fur trade became an important industry. Steamboats were an important part of the growth of this area. They provided for shipping of furs and supplies for trading posts as well as transportation for passengers who came to the area to live.

Research - Discuss - Learn

How were pioneer schools different from school of today?
Make a list of 5 differences..

Before settlers arrived with the Homestead Act, the junction of the Missouri River and Vermilion River had been the camping ground for Yankton Sioux Indians. The Native Americans lived off the land, growing corn and hunting buffalo and other wild animals for food. In summer their tepees were set up on top of the bluff to get the summer breezes and when winter came they moved to the bottom of the hill to get the shelter from the winter's storms.

By 1859 and 1860 the Yankton Sioux Indians were moved to reservations and Dakota Territory was opened to homesteaders. Many of the earlier settlers were Scandinavians coming from eastern United States and their original home countries of Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. As settlers came, the population of the area grew and the town of Vermillion was incorporated in 1873. It is now the 11th largest city in South Dakota. (*Vermillion Chamber of Commerce/Clay County Historical Society*)



Vocabulary

JUNCTION: a place or point of meeting.

HOMESTEAD: a home and surrounding land.

SLATE: a type of hard rock that splits easily into thin layers; a small sheet of slate in a wooden frame was used in schools in the past for writing on with chalk.

ECONOMY: the process or system by which goods and services are produced, sold, and bought in a country or region.



REST STOP

Tour the National Music Museum located in Vermillion at nmmusd.org. The museum is home to one of the largest displays of musical instruments in the world. There are over 1200 instruments on display and more than 15,000 stored as part of the overall collection.

Map Builder

Vermillion is located near the Missouri and Vermillion Rivers. Create a symbol for rivers in your Map Legend. Use this symbol to mark the path of these Rivers.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. Why were steamboats important to the economy of Vermillion and other South Dakota towns?
2. Settlers came to South Dakota because of the Homestead Act. What was this important law? What did it provide for pioneers?

Pioneer Schools

Education was an important part of the history of Vermillion. The first school building in Dakota Territory was built in present-day Vermillion in 1864. The school house was a one-room structure build of cottonwood logs found along the Missouri River. The small building was only sixteen by twenty feet. The sides of the cabin were 8 feet high. It had one door and windows on two sides. The University of South Dakota was established in 1862 at the first meeting of the Territorial Legislature. Pioneer schools were different from schools of today. Schools were not separated into elementary, middle and high school levels. First through eighth grade students were taught by the same teacher in a one-room building. The teacher lived with one or more of the pioneer families during the school year.

Schools usually had a wood burning stove to heat the building. The stove could not be used until it was very cold because wood was so hard to find and expensive. Most students lived at least one mile away and walked or rode their horse to school. Students brought their lunch each day, which many times was a potato they cooked on the school's stove.

School was in session for only a few months in the winter and a few months in the summer. Classes were canceled often because of winter weather. Severe prairie blizzards did not allow people to safely leave their homes for days at a time. Students, especially boys, often missed school to help on the farm. For these reasons, it was hard for students to finish all eight years of school.

Pioneer students studied reading, writing, spelling, geography and arithmetic (math). Paper was very expensive so students used slates for their lessons. If students did have paper, they used a quill pen dipped in ink to write.



— — — — — Pigs, Pork and By Products — — — — —

We continue our study of pigs by learning about the foods they eat, as well as types of pork and other products made from pigs.

Pigs are raised on farms by farmers or “pork producers.” In Yankton, we learned that pigs are raised where corn is grown. Pigs also eat soybeans and other grains. Additional vitamins are also added to their feed to help them stay healthy and well. In addition to taking care of livestock, farmers also raise crops to feed them.

After eating and digesting the grains, pigs produce a natural fertilizer called manure. Farmers use

manure on their fields to provide nutrients to the soil needed for healthy plants. The process of growing healthy plants that provide feed for animals is called the Nutrient Cycle.

Healthy pigs are then marketed or sold and taken to meat processing plants where the meat from a pig is processed into pork and other products.

AG FACTS

Piglets weight 2-3 pounds at birth. At 6 months of age, pigs weight about 280 pounds.

There are 8 major swine breeds in the United States – Duroc, Berkshire, Yorkshire, Poland China, Landrace, Spotted, Hampshire and Chester White. See pictures of and read more about these breeds at pork.org/facts/pig-farming/major-swine-breeds

Research - Discuss - Learn

- 1. Where does the farmer or pork producer get corn and soybeans to feed his livestock, if they are not raised on his farm?
- 2. Where does the farmer or producer store grains on his farm?

Vocabulary

PRODUCER: *a person who grows agricultural products or manufactures items.*

PORK: *meat from pigs.*



Learn about pork and other products made from pigs. Complete the *Pork: Tic Tac Know* and *Pig Pen* activities.

Travel Log **WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL**

In Vermillion we learned about the Nutrient Cycle. Here’s how that process works:

DESMET

ESTABLISHED IN: 1883
POPULATION: 1,077

Town History

The town of DeSmet was founded in 1883. It was named for Father Pierre DeSmet, a priest who spent his life traveling along the Missouri River doing missionary work with Native Americans. A statue in his honor is placed in the town's Washington Park.

Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of the Little House on the Prairie book series, lived in DeSmet for many years. Laura and her family were homesteaders and the first family to live in the town. DeSmet was the setting for five of her nine books, which tell a story of pioneer life and farming.



History
PASSPORT

Become an author like Laura! Write and illustrate a story using the *Story Starter: Pioneer Days* template.

Map Builder

DeSmet is located on Highway 14, one the state's main highways. Draw the route of South Dakota Highway 14 across the state.



REST STOP

The original Ingalls' homestead is still located one mile from DeSmet. Visitors can experience a covered wagon ride, an 1880s school lesson, pioneering activities and a tour of the Ingalls' home. Visit www.ingallshomestead.com for a virtual tour of the Ingalls' homestead.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

In DeSmet we visited Laura Ingalls Wilder's home and learned more about her life. Although pioneers spent most of their day working, Laura and her family made time for fun activities, such as:

Vocabulary

- MISSIONARY:** a person who is sent to another area to do religious work and to help people who are sick.
- PRAIRIE:** a large, mostly flat area of land that has few trees and is covered in grasses.
- FERTILE SOIL:** land that can support the growth of many plants or crops.
- LIVESTOCK:** farm animals that are kept, used and/or raised by people.
- CROP:** a plant that can be grown and harvested.
- SOD:** the upper layer of soil that is made up of grass and plant roots.

Learning About Laura Ingalls Wilder

Laura Ingalls was born on February 7, 1867 in Wisconsin to Charles and Caroline Ingalls. The members of the Ingalls family were true pioneers. They packed up their household goods and moved west in search of farmland. The family traveled by covered wagon through Kansas and Minnesota before settling in DeSmet, Dakota Territory. Learn more about Laura Ingalls Wilder:

—Laura had three sisters: Mary, Carrie and Grace. She also had a brother, Charles, who died as an infant.

—One of Laura's favorite past times was to sing and dance while her father played the fiddle.

—Laura often mentioned food and mealtimes in her books. This was because getting and preparing food was hard work. Pioneers had to hunt, fish, trap or grow their food. They then had to cure (smoke), dry, can or pickle it to make sure food would be available throughout the year.

—One of Laura's favorite childhood Christmas presents was a rag doll. This new rag doll replaced her old "doll" which was a corn cob.

—Laura was only 15 years old when she became a school teacher. Laura used the money she earned from teaching to help pay for her sister, Mary, to

attend a college for the blind. Mary had lost her eyesight at the age of 14 from an illness.

—Laura married Almanzo Wilder on August 25, 1885. Their only child, Rose, became a well-known author, journalist and world traveler.

—Laura's books were made into a television series. Little House on the Prairie was on television from 1974-1983. Reruns of the program can still be viewed today.

—Laura, Almanzo and Rose moved from DeSmet to Missouri, where they bought a 200 acre farm which became their permanent home.

—Laura died in Missouri in 1957, three days after her 90th birthday.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. How large was a covered wagon?
2. What was a typical pioneer meal?
3. How old was Laura when she first started teaching?

Choosing a Homestead

Pioneers came to the prairie with very little money and few belongings. They had to live off what the land could provide for them. Many pioneers chose locations for their homesteads near natural resources such as water, trees and fertile soil. Having good farm land was important because it provided food for their family and livestock. Any extra crops or livestock could be sold and the money used to cover costs of daily life.

When choosing a homestead, living close to a source of water was important because pioneers did not have running water in their homes. Each day they went to the closest river, lake or stream, filled their buckets with water and carried them back. This water was used for cooking, bathing, cleaning, and watering crops and livestock.

Once a homesteader selected the land to farm, they built a tiny, one-room house called a claim shanty. Families lived in the shanty until they could afford to build a larger, more permanent house. Shanties were made of lumber or prairie sod. A shanty made of lumber had a dirt floor and was very drafty and cold. A shanty made of prairie sod was cool in the summer and warm in the winter. However, if it rained or snowed, water leaked through the dirt walls.

Groups of trees were not a common part of the prairie landscape. The land was mostly flat, with some rolling hills—but few trees. To save the wood from trees for other uses, many pioneers burned buffalo or cow chips to heat their homes. Once railroads were built, pioneers could buy lumber and coal as a way to heat their house, however those resources were expensive and many could not afford the cost.

Soybeans—From Seed to Table

Our study of soybeans begins with learning basic information about soybeans and ends with the salad dressing on our dinner plate and/or the painted walls of our homes. Throughout our road trip across South Dakota, we will follow soybeans from the seed in the field to the grain elevator to the processing plant, to the grocery or hardware store—and finally to our home.

Let's start at the beginning to learn about this important food product. The history of soybeans goes back 5000 years to the time farmers in China grew this food plant. Soybeans were brought to America by Yankee clipper ship in 1804. It wasn't until 1829 that United States farmers started planting and growing soybeans. During the Civil War, soybeans were used as "coffee berries" when coffee beans were not available. Since that time, soybeans and soy products are used for food for humans, food for livestock and also many industrial and home and business products.

Soybeans are often called the "miracle crop." They are the world's largest provider of vegetable oil. The bushy, green plant is related to peas with its seeds growing in pod. Soybeans can be grown in a wide variety of soil and climates than any other major world crop.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. What are some foods that contain soybeans?
2. What farm animals eat soybeans for foods?

Scavenger Hunt

1. DeSmet was name for Father DeSmet. Name 3 South Dakota towns that have a man's name.
2. What is the population of South Dakota?

Here's some more fun and interesting facts about soybeans and soybean production:

- More than 11,000 farms in South Dakota grow soybeans.
- South Dakota is the 8th leading soybean producer in America.
- Each soybean plant has 60-80 pods containing two or three beans each.
- The average person consumes around 7 gallons of soybean oil every year in such items as vegetable oil, salad dressings, and mayonnaise.



Agriculture
PASSPORT

Farming has changed a lot since the late 1800's, however what has not changed is that all crops start from a seed. Soybeans are an important crop grown by many farms in South Dakota. Let's learn about the soybean plant and how it grows. Complete the *Life of a Soybean Plant* and *Sprouting Seeds* activities.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

We learned a lot about soybeans on our visit to DeSmet. We learned that soybeans are used to make many things such as:

SISSETON

ESTABLISHED IN: 1892
POPULATION: 2,429

Town History

Sisseton, which means “fishing village” was founded in 1892 and named after the Sisseton band of the Sioux Indian tribe. Sisseton is the largest community of the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation. The reservation is home to the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate tribe. Sisseton is located on the northern edge of the *Coteau Des Prairies*, which is French for “hills of the prairies.”

The town of Sisseton was settled in a matter of minutes. The United States government opened up 600,000 acres of land to homesteaders at high noon on April 15, 1892. Hundreds of land seekers lined up around the edges of the new land ready to stake their claim when the bugle sounded.

Vocabulary

FRONTIER: *a distant area where few people live.*

TIMBER: *wood used for making something.*

ACTIVIST: *a person who strongly supports a cause and takes action to make changes.*

GREAT SPIRIT: *the main god in the religion of many North American Indian tribes.*

HIDE: *an animal skin treated and made into items such as belts or shoes.*

Sioux Culture

Sisseton is located on the Lake Traverse Reservation. The reservation boundaries extend across seven counties, two in North Dakota and five in South Dakota. The Sioux culture is known for its interesting history and traditions. Learn about important symbols and practices of the Sioux culture.

Sacred Pipe: The sacred pipe and ceremony are at the heart of Native American culture. In ceremonies, the smoke coming from the mouth of the pipe symbolizes the truth being spoken. The smoke provides a path for prayers to reach the Great Spirit.

Powwow: A powwow is a gathering to celebrate friendships and Native American traditions. Dancing and singing are an important part of the event.

Drum: The powwow drum has a large round base that is covered with buffalo, deer or cow hide.

Native American men form a circle and strike the drum using covered mallets. The men then sing with the beating of the drum to create songs.

Star Quilt: Star Quilts are used for beauty, warmth, and healing. These quilts are a very important part of many Native American ceremonies. A large star is the main design of the quilt. You may have seen one of these quilts given to honor a basketball player at the South Dakota boy's or girl's state basketball tournament each year.

Tatanka: *Tatankais* the Lakota word that means “bull buffalo.” Native American ceremonies and daily life revolved around this sacred animal.

Research - Discuss - Learn
Research and share one other Native American symbol or tradition.

Forts

The United State Military began building forts along the Missouri River in the years following the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Forts were built to serve as trading centers and military bases for soldiers whose mission was to keep peace on the frontier. Sites for the forts built in Dakota Territory were selected based on their location to Native American tribes, the Missouri River, east-west transportation lines, larger settlements and towns, and military headquarters.

Fort Sisseton was built in 1864 near present-day Sisseton. It was originally named Fort Wadsworth after General James Wadsworth, a soldier

who was killed during the Civil War. It

was later renamed Fort Sisseton in honor of the Sisseton Sioux Indian tribe.

The Sisseton location was chosen because the land provided a natural defense. The fort was built at the top of the Coteau Des Prairies, which allowed soldiers to see people coming from many directions. It was also near a supply of clay and stone for making bricks, lakes for water and trees for timber and fuel.

Fort Sisseton protected explorers, gold miners and settlers as they traveled through Dakota Territory. All settlers coming to the area from the east were required to stop at Fort Sisseton for military inspection of their belongings. Native American tribes sometimes attacked these groups as they were fighting to keep control of the land that once belonged to them.



Fort Sisseton Powder House stored explosive gunpowder

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. Why was Fort Sisseton built at the top of the Coteau Des Prairies?
2. How many forts were built in South Dakota in the years following the Lewis and Clark Expedition?

DETOUR

The Joseph N. Nicollet Tower is near Sisseton. At the top of the tower, viewers are able to see land in three different states. The tower was built to honor Mr. Nicollet, a French mapmaker who explored and created the first accurate map of the area between the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers in the 1830s.

Map Builder

An important part of drawing any map is to label directions. Sisseton is located on the northeast side of South Dakota. Draw a compass in the Map Legend on your Map Builder. Label each of the four directions—north, south, east and west.



History
PASSPORT

A fort is a building or group of buildings where soldiers live and work. They are usually strategically located and guarded by troops. Forts in pioneer times served two purposes—for trading of furs and other items and also for military protection. Great Plains forts were situated based on their location to Native American tribes; transportation routes going east and west; settlements and towns; and also to military headquarters. Complete the **Frontier Fort** activity to practice designing three different forts to scale size.

Science in the Soybean Field

We have learned that soybeans are often called the "miracle crop" because of their hundreds of uses. Did you know that each of us eats 35 to 40 pounds of soybeans every year? Soybeans are also used in non-food products too! Soybeans are an important source of protein for both humans and animals.

Soybeans are legumes with its seeds growing in a pod similar to peas. They are an annual plant, completing their life cycle within one year. They are planted in the spring and harvested in the fall. From planting to harvest, the soybean life cycle takes about 14 to 18 weeks. The life cycle of a soybean plant is a scientific process that includes photosynthesis where the plant makes its own food, uses energy from the sun, and water from the soil and atmosphere.

Most soybean farmers do not plant soybeans on the same field two years in a row. This is called crop rotation. This is better for the soil and also for the soybean plant.



AG FACTS

Did you know that...

- During the Civil War, soldiers used soybeans instead of coffee beans to brew coffee?
- Soy ink is used to print newspapers and textbooks?
- A soybean plants average 20 to 30 pods?

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. We learned that we eat 35 to 40 pounds of soybean foods each year. Research and list 5 foods you eat that contain soybeans.
2. We also learned that soybeans are food for animals too. Name two farm animals that eat soybeans.



Agriculture
PASSPORT

Learn about soybeans from the ground up! Complete the *Science in the Soybean Field* and *Soybean Parts in Action* activities.

MITCHELL

ESTABLISHED IN: 1883

POPULATION: 15,726

Town History

Mitchell became a town in 1883 and was named after Alexander Mitchell, a banker from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was the president of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad. Arikara and later Sioux Indians were the first people to live in this area. Settlers arrived in 1872 waiting for the railroad to be built.

Research - Discuss - Learn

What do you think should be the next mural design?
Explain.



REST STOP

South Dakota Weather was the theme of this year's Corn Palace Design. Events from South Dakota's history are often the chosen as themes. Visit www.cornpalace.org/150/Corn-Palace-Murals to see the list of topics and murals.

Vocabulary

DROUGHT: a long period of dry weather.

MURAL: a usually large painting that is done directly on the surface of a wall.

State History

Mitchell Corn Palace

Mitchell is home to the world's only Corn Palace. The first Corn Palace was built in 1892 as a gathering place for town residents and farmers to celebrate the fall harvest. It was also a way to showcase South Dakota's agriculture to the rest of the world.

The second Corn Palace was built in 1905 and the current Corn Palace was rebuilt in 1921 with a more modern look and to hold larger crowds. The new Corn Place hosted the first ever State Boys Basketball tournament that winter.

The Corn Palace is redecorated each year with locally grown grains, grasses and thirteen different colors of corn. Colored corn seeds are grown to fit the mural designs. Each different color of corn must be planted in a different field so that the colors don't blend. It takes 100 acres of land to grown the 275,000 ears of corn needed for the mural designs. Each separate ear of corn is nailed to the outside of

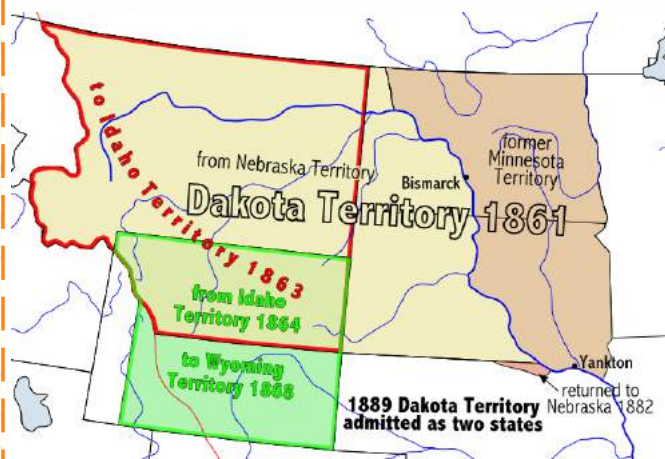


the building to create different pictures.

The inside of the Corn Palace is an arena where concerts, business conventions and sporting events are held. More than 500,000 tourists visit the Corn Place each year.

A drought in 2006 forced the workers to skip the 2007 mural change because the special colored corn was not available. This was the first time in over 100 years that the Corn Palace design was not changed.

South Dakota Becomes A State



Dakota Territory Map

The story of South Dakota began long before it joined the Union in 1889.

South Dakota was named for the Sioux Indians who lived in Dakota Territory. The Sioux called themselves "the Dakota" which means "allies" or "friends." Dakota Territory, created in 1861, was made up of the states that are now North and South Dakota. "South" Dakota was the southern half of Dakota Territory and "North" Dakota was the northern half of the region. Both states applied for statehood at the same time. To decide which state would be admitted first, President Benjamin Harrison put the application papers face down, mixed them up and signed them without looking at the titles. This was how North Dakota became the 39th state and South Dakota, the 40th state.

Pierre Becomes the Capital City

Pierre was named the capital of South Dakota in 1904. Seven cities competed for the honor of being the capital city: Watertown, Pierre, Huron, Aberdeen, Redfield, Mitchell and Sioux Falls. Pierre was chosen because of its location in the center of the state, the Missouri River for steamboat travel and shipping, and the Chicago and Northwestern railroad lines, also for shipping and passenger travel.

In a 1904 election, Mitchell lost its capital bid by 17,462 votes. The capital fight had its roots in the late 1800s disputes over the capital of Dakota Territory. After South Dakota was admitted as a state in 1889, a vote was conducted in to designate the permanent capital. In that vote, Pierre defeated Huron.

Research - Discuss - Learn

What reasons did Mitchell give in their campaign as to why they should be chosen as the capital?

Scavenger Hunt

South Dakota's state seal is included in the design of the state flag. Why does each state have a seal? What is the purpose of the seal?

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

My favorite part of our visit to Mitchell was.....because.....



History
PASSPORT

There are many leaders who help run our state, towns and schools. Can you name these leaders? Complete the *Who's Running Our State* activity to learn more.

Corn—From Tassel to Table

Our study of corn begins with the planting of seeds and ends with the box of cereal on our kitchen table. How did that tiny seed evolve or develop into a box of corn flakes? Throughout our road trip across South Dakota, we will follow that seed of corn from the field to the grain bin, to the elevator, to the semi-truck or train to the processing plant, to the grocery store – and finally to our home.

Let's go back to the beginning to learn about this important food product. Corn is a cereal grass that was first grown in Mexico over 7000 years ago. In many countries corn is called maize that comes from the Spanish word "maiz." This crop is also an important part of Native American culture. In addition to food, corn was and is used for decoration, tools and as a part of religious ceremonies. Native American tribes shared their knowledge of raising and producing corn with early pioneers.

Corn is an important crop in South Dakota and all over the world. Corn is used as food for people and livestock, as well as things we use every day such as plastics and soap—even fuel for our vehicles. In fact in 2013, South Dakota farmers raised 812 million bushels of corn.

Research - Discuss - Learn

1. What machines are used to harvest corn from the field?
2. Where is corn stored on a farm?

DETOUR

POET Research Center, located in Scotland, SD, was the first commercial ethanol plant in South Dakota. The plant uses corn from area farms to produce an environmentally friendly vehicle fuel called ethanol. Watch the Production of Ethanol video to learn how ethanol is made.

AG FACT

An average ear of corn has 800 kernels in 16 rows.

Corn can be grown in various colors including blackish, bluish-gray, purple, green, red, white and the most common yellow.



Agriculture
PASSPORT

Raising and processing corn is an important industry in South Dakota. The Corn Palace in Mitchell is an important tourist attraction that uses corn to illustrate special events from our history. Let's learn more about this important crop. Complete the *Parts of a Corn Plant* and *Corn Kernel Clues* activities.

Travel Log

WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL

Corn isn't the only crop grown in South Dakota. Another crop grown in our state is..... It is used to make.....